

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DEAE-00 IO-14 JUSE-00 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 AGR-20 DRC-01 /169 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5481

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: ECEVIT PROMISES TIGHT CONTROL FOR POPPIES

1. PRIMIN ECEVIT HOSTED HOUR-LONG SUNDAY AFTERNOON PRESS CONFERENCE RESTRICTED TO FOREIGN JOURNALISTS. (FULL TEXT OF CONFERENCE, WHICH MFA SAYS WILL BE AVAILABLE THURSDAY WILL BE TRANSMITTED ASAP). ALTHOUGH CONFERENCE BASICALLY DEALT WITH CYPRUS, NEWSDAY CORRESPONDENT ROYCE INQUIRED ABOUT RESUMPTIN POPPY PLANTING.

2. ECEVIT SAID PLANTING TO RESUME THIS FALL IN SPECIFIC AREAS WITHIN SEVEN PROVINCES. GOT WILL CONCENTRATE ON TIGHT CONTROL IN THE FIELDS RATHER THAN AT BORDERS. ENGLISH LANGUAGE TURKISH DAILY NEWS QUOTES ECEVIT AS SAYING "WE AGREE WITH THE U.S. THAT BORDER CHECKS ARE MORE DIFFICULT AND LESS EFFECTIVE."

3. DAILY NEWS ALSO REPORTS ECEVIT SAID CONTROLS FROM TECHNICAL VIEWPOINT NOT TOO DIFFICULT GOT HAS AIRPLANES, HELICOPTERS TO WATCH FIELDS. SEVERAL THOUSAND POLICE OFFICERS, MOST OF WHOM TRAINED IN U.S., WILL ENFORCE CONTROLS IN AREA AROUND AFYON. FURTHER, GOT EXPECTS COOPERATION OF POPPY GROWERS, WHO "NOT THE ONES MAKING ILLEGAL PROFITS FROM POPPY. IF THEY HAD BEEN THEY WOULDN'T BE POOREST FARMERS IN TURKEY."

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4. ECEVIT ALSO STATED TURKEY WOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS TO INDUSTRIALIZE
POPPY-GROWING PROVINCES TO OFFER FARMERS ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD.

5. COMMENT: ECEVIT STATEMENTS FOLLOW SAME LINE HE HAS USED
IN PAST. PARA 3 COMMENT ON THOUSANDS POLICE OFFICERS MOSTLY
TRAINED IN U.S. --IT MAY BE MISQUOTE, OR MAY REFLECT ECEVIT'S
LACK OF INFORMATION ON SIZE TRAINING PROGRAMS. NO REPORTING AS
YET IN TURKISH LANGUAGE PAPERS ON PRESS CONFERENCE.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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